

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 /089 W

-----130157 090349Z /23

R 081400Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2015

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4560

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, WA, SF

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: FAREWELL INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR SCHRICKE

1. WE ARE FORWARDING BY AIRGRAM (A-65) TO THE DEPARTMENT, USUN AND EMBASSY PARIS THE TEXT OF A RAND DAILY MAIL FAREWELL INTERVIEW OF FRENCH AMBASSADOR SCHRICKE WHO DEPARTS JULY 13 FOR REASSIGNMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA. THE INTERVIEW COVERS VARIOUS TOPICS, INCLUDING FRENCH POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA, BLACK AFRICA AND NAMIBIA.

2. AT ONE POINT, SCHRICKE WAS ASKED ABOUT "SHARP DIFFERENCES: AMONG THE WESTERN FIVE. THE RAND DAILY MAIL QUOTED HIM AS RESPONDING: "I THINK ON THE WHOLE BRITAIN AND FRANCE TRIED TO PLAY THE ROLE OF MODERATING FORCES. DON'T FORGET THAT MR. DON MCHENRY IS NOT AN AFRICAN. IN SPITE OF AN ILLUSION HE MAY HAVE, HE IS CONSIDERED AMERICAN. HE IS A POLITICAN APPOINTED BY THE INTERNAL AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION. ALL THE OTHERS IN THE CONTACT GROUP WERE CAREER DIPLOMATS--THAT MAY EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCES.

MR. MCHENRY DID NOT RESIST PRESS CONFERENCES, WHICH GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF A LEADERSHIP ROLE. HE

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WAS THINKING OF THE UNITED STATES PRESS, AND WHY AND BY WHOM PRESIDENT CARTER WAS ELECTED. HE IS A MEMBER OF THE CABINET AND HE WAS SOMEONE VERY NECESSARY TO GAIN THE NEGRO VOTE."

3. SCHRICKE PHONED THE AMBASSADOR TO SAY HIS RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION ON DIFFERENCES AMONG THE FIVE HAD BEEN

"DISTORTED": THE CITATION WAS TOO LONG, HE DID NOT
ACKNOWLEDGE DIFFERENCES AMONG THE FIVE, HE DID NOT SAY
AMBASSADOR MECHENRY IS A MEMBER OF THE CABINET OR
A POLITICIAN PLAYING TO THE MEDIA.
EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR04560
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780325-0203
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780887/aaaacvch.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 241e0467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1804304
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NAMIBIA: FAREWELL INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR SCHRICKE
TAGS: PORG, SOPN, WA, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/241e0467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014